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## **Alienation from society, self estrangement, and personality characteristics from the Mmp1 in normals and schizophrenics.**

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ALIENATION FROM SOCIETY, SELF ESTRANGEMENT, AND  
PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS FROM THE MMPI  
IN NORMALS AND SCHIZOPHRENICS

A Thesis Presented

By

Richard E. Merwin, Jr.

Submitted to the Graduate School of the  
University of Massachusetts in  
partial fulfillment of the  
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A THESIS

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August, 1970

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ALIENATION FROM SOCIETY, SELF ESTRANGEMENT, AND  
PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS FROM THE MMPI  
IN NORMALS AND SCHIZOPHRENICS

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Anomy has been a popular concept in sociological literature and has been related to such diverse events as suicide (Durkheim, 1897), crime (Lander, 1954), political behavior (Kornhauser, Sheppard, & Mayer, 1956), racial prejudice (Srole, 1956), religious orthodoxy (Keedy, 1958), heart disease (Caron, Wardell, & Bahnson, 1963), achievement of life goals (Meir & Bell, 1959), deviant behavior in general (Nettler, 1959; Merton, 1956), and rates of mental hospitalization (Gibbs, 1962). As originally conceptualized by Durkheim, anomy referred to a societal condition existing outside of individuals occupying roles in a social system, and was postulated to be a result of the instinctive soaring of human aspirations in the absence of effective social controls. The referents for anomy were thus sought in social institutions. In later research increasing emphasis has been placed on anomic feelings, or the individual's perception of anomic forces in his society. In order to distinguish anomic feelings from the social condition of anomy, the former are typically labeled anomia (Simpson & Miller, 1963) or alienation (Seeman, 1959). We regard our



present alienation concept as equivalent to anomia as the latter term appears in the social science literature.

Several authors have suggested that alienation may be associated with various psychopathologies. Davids (1955) found that highly alienated subjects were judged by experienced clinicians to be lacking in ego strength. However, his measure of alienation included such traits as egocentricity, distrust, pessimism, anxiety, and resentment--traits which may also define low ego strength. Meier and Bell (1959) have stated that alienated persons are characterized by "at the very least, [despondency, and at worst, abject despair]" (p. 191). However, no attempt was made to test this assertion. McClosky and Schaar (1965) found a positive relationship between scores on their anomy scale and measures of pessimism, and a negative relationship to life satisfaction, but they do not directly address themselves to psychopathology. Srole (1962) has suggested a linkage between anomic feelings and severe psychosis (schizophrenia), but the evidence is again not conclusive.

Previous studies have failed to be more than suggestive of an association between alienation and psychopathology principally through a failure to clarify the alienation concept (distinguishing between anomy and alienation) and through the use of subjective or unreliable measures of psychopathology (clinical interviews, unvalidated scales, etc.). In the present research we attempt to specify more precisely our concept of alienation and limit that conception to a strictly psychological variable. Thus, no inferences are made regard-



ing the existence of anomic social processes. To measure personality characteristics frequently associated with psychopathology, we have employed the MMPI, a popular objective psychological test often used in diagnostic settings. We can thus explore the relationship between alienation and a broad range of personality characteristics in a normal (student) sample and a hospitalized (schizophrenic) sample in order to ask: Is there a relationship between alienation and psychological characteristics measured by the MMPI? Is alienation related to personality characteristics, and is the relationship between personality characteristics and alienation the same in the normal and schizophrenic samples?

Since the term alienation, even after imposing a psychological limitation, has many possible meanings, we may start by considering five logically distinct psychological states suggested by Seeman (1959) as being encompassed by alienation. These are the feelings of powerlessness, meaninglessness, normlessness, isolation, and self estrangement. The present research is concerned with differentiating feelings of self estrangement from a feeling of social meaninglessness and normlessness. That is, we are concerned with two logically separable psychological states.

This distinction is essentially that expressed by Taviss: "Given tension between self and society, two ideal-type extreme forms of resolution are possible: (1) Social alienation--in which individual selves may find the social system in which they live to be oppressive or incompatible with some

of their own desires and feel estranged from it; and (2) self-alienation--in which individual selves may lose contact with any inclinations or desires that are not in agreement with prevailing social patterns, manipulate their selves in accordance with apparent social demands, and/or feel incapable of controlling their own actions" (1969, p. 47).

A self estrangement aspect of alienation probably was first clearly discerned by Marx. In his writings on political economy, Marx described a state of self estrangement which he attributed to the capitalist economic system: "Just as in religion the spontaneous activity of the human imagination, of the human brain and the human heart, operates independently of the individual--that is, operates on him as an alien, divine or diabolical activity--so is the worker's activity not his spontaneous activity. It belongs to another; it is the loss of his self....This relation is the relation of the worker to his own activity as an alien activity not belonging to him; it is activity as suffering, strength as weakness, begetting as emasculating, the worker's own physical and mental energy, his personal life indeed, what is left but activity?--as an activity which is turned against him, independent of him and not belonging to him. Here we have self estrangement." (in Struik, 1964, pp. 111-112). More recently, Laing has stated the issue even more strongly, as to him self estrangement is the condition of modern man. "As adults, we have forgotten most of our childhood, not only its contents but its flavor; as men of the world, we hardly know of the existence of the inner world: we

barely remember our dreams, and make little sense of them when we do; as for our bodies, we retain just sufficient proprioceptive sensations to coordinate our movements and ensure the minimal requirements for biosocial survival--to register fatigue, signals for food, sex, defecation, sleep; beyond that, little or nothing. Our capacity to think, except in the service of what we are dangerously deluded in supposing is our self-interest and in conformity with common sense, is pitifully limited: our capacity to see, hear, touch, taste and smell is so shrouded in veils of mystification that an intensive discipline of unlearning is necessary for anyone before one can begin to experience the world afresh, with innocence, truth and love." (1967, p. 26). Finally, because of its simplicity we note Fromm's (1955, p. 26) definition of alienation: "By alienation is meant a mode of experience in which the person experiences himself as an alien."

Having established the tone of the self estrangement concept, we propose five defining qualities. The presence of these feelings in an individual contribute, by our definition, to his self estrangement; these are: (1) experience of one's actions as alien, (2) experience of one's self as alien, (3) experience of one's past as alien or unknown, (4) experience of one's dreams and fantasy as irrelevant or meaningless, and (5) experiencing uncertainty as to one's own feelings. From these characteristics we have derived a potential scale item, attempting to operationalize each part of the concept as directly as possible. These items are, in respective order:



1. I often do things without knowing why.
2. Very often I feel like a stranger to myself.
3. I don't remember much from my early childhood.
4. My dreams never make much sense to me.
5. Often it's hard for me to make up my mind because I don't know how I really feel about something.

Because of its simplicity, four response categories were allowed in expressing strong agreement to strong disagreement with each item. This forms a Likert-type scale with a possible total score ranging from 20 to 5, and is called the self estrangement (SE) scale.

#### Alienation from Society

One set of items used to measure alienation from society has been developed by McClosky and Schaar (1965). According to the authors, "The items express the feelings that people today lack firm convictions and standards, that it is difficult to tell right from wrong in our complex and disorderly world, that the traditional values which gave meaning to the individual and order to the society have lost their force, and that the social ties which once bound men together have dissolved" (1965, p. 24). These items and the percentage agreeing in a national survey (N=1484) are given below:

1. With everything so uncertain these days, it almost seems as though anything could happen. (82%)
2. What is lacking in the world today is the old kind of friendship that lasted for a lifetime. (69%)
3. With everything is such a state of disorder, it's

hard for a person to know where he stands from one day to the next. (50%)

4. Everything changes so quickly these days that I often have trouble deciding which are the right rules to follow. (49%)
5. I often feel that many things our parents stood for are just going to ruin before our very eyes. (48%)
6. I often feel awkward and out of place. (37%)
7. People were better off in the old days when everyone knew just how he was expected to act. (27%)
8. It seems to me that other people find it easier to decide what is right than I do. (27%)

Another scale used to measure alienation from society is the popular Srole anomie scale (Srole, 1956). Research employing this scale has been widespread. The five-item scale has, among other things, been factor analyzed at least twice (Struening & Richardson, 1965; Neal & Rettig, 1967) and found to be unidimensional, although it is not easy to specify exactly what the factor is (see Nettler's criticism that "Srole's anomia and the present Anomy scales are measures of despair" (1965, pp. 762-763)). Srole describes his anomie factor in these terms: "...concretely, this variable is conceived as referring to the individual's generalized, pervasive sense of 'self-to-others distance' and 'self-to others alienation' at the other pole of the continuum" (1956, p. 711). Clinard has summarized the components of Srole's scale in this way: "It

(Srole's scale) involves five items which purport to measure the individual's perception of his social environment and his place in it. Srole expressed the items as five questions, to identify the anomic person: Does he feel that (1) community leaders are indifferent to his needs, (2) little can be accomplished in a society whose social order is essentially unpredictable, (3) life goals are receding from him rather than being reached, (4) no one can be counted on for support, and (5) life is meaningless and futile" (1964, p. 35). We may ignore Srole's use of the word "anomy" to label the construct, since he makes explicit reference in his own definition to "the individual's...sense of...." This language, and the wording of the scale items coincides with the present conception of alienation as a psychological state. Srole's scale items are reproduced below with the percent agreement found in a recent study of college students. (Percentages from Messer, 1969.)

1. In spite of what some people say, things are getting worse for the average man. (28%)
2. It's hardly fair to bring children into the world with the way things look for the future. (21%)
3. Nowadays a person has to live pretty much for today and let tomorrow take care of itself. (24%)
4. There is little use in writing to public officials because often they aren't really interested in the problems of the average man. (15%)
5. These days a person doesn't really know who he can count on. (39%)



## Personality Assessment Instrument

The MMPI is one of the most widely used psychological tests, and although the clinical scales have been standardized on a normal population, more recent research involving college students suggests that college students may differ in their response patterns from the original standardization population. For example, Clark (1954) has found that both college men and women tend to have elevated profiles. The men in his sample had a mean profile of 55 T-score points, while the women averaged above 52 points. Gilliland and Colgin (1959) also found that the college group they studied tended to have elevated profiles, with 39% obtaining one score greater than 70 T-score points (two standard deviations above the original norm) and 14% obtaining two or more scales elevated above 70 points. Finally, Sopchak (1952) has suggested that mean profiles obtained from college students may differ according to the geographic region in which the school is located. Other investigators (e.g., Tyler & Michaelis, 1953; Simon, 1968) have found scales that differ significantly for various undergraduate majors. One conclusion to be drawn from these studies is that high MMPI scale scores obtained from college students may have different implications than similar elevations obtained on other population samples. However, the scoring pattern and the K correction are calculated in the standard manner in this research in order that the results may be more widely interpretable.

### Hypotheses and Expected Relationships

While wishing to retain an openness to relationships which may emerge in the course of data analysis in this study, we advance several hypotheses regarding the relationship of self estrangement, social alienation, and personality characteristics. First, we expect that highly alienated and self estranged individuals will tend to show more pathological tendencies. This expectation follows from the previous studies cited above, the general nature of the alienation items, and the maladjustment implied in the concepts. The socially alienated individual, in the extreme, is responding to feelings of disconnection and disengagement from his society. To the extent that he exists as an "island," he is unable to relate his behavior to that of others; and the social institutions, conventions, and expectations which generally play an important part in the regulation of behavior may be less operative. At the extreme end of this continuum of social alienation we expect to find that individuals are not sufficiently bound to others to define reality conceptually; that is, idiosyncratic definitions and psychotic modes of behavior may emerge which are immune to conventional social expectations and censure. In its extreme form White has noted that: "The distinguishing mark of psychosis is a substantial loss of contact with the surrounding world" (White, 1964, p. 51).

The self estranged individual, on the other hand, may not experience the loss of social contact and consequent controls expected of the socially alienated person. Highly self

estranged persons have lost contact with themselves, but like Riessman's "other-directed" type, they may actually have very close social contacts and be acutely sensitive to social expectations and conventions. Although an extremely self estranged individual would be expected to operate inefficiently in social settings (since he has no firm base from which to initiate contacts), it seems possible for a moderately self estranged person to compensate, in a sense, for his self-loss by participation in social activity. Thus the moderately self estranged person may attempt to define himself and maintain his self esteem through social contacts. Horney suggests how self estrangement, and compensation via social participation, may play an essential role in the neuroses. "Through the eclipse of large areas of the self by repression and inhibition as well as idealization and externalization, the individual loses sight of himself; he feels, if he does not actually become, like a shadow without weight or substance. And meanwhile his need of others and his fear of them make them not only more formidable to him but more necessary" (1945, p. 151).

Relating these ideas to the use of the MMPI in the present study, we expect that highly socially alienated persons (high AS scorers) will show higher scores on five MMPI scales. It must be pointed out here, however, that personality inferences based on single MMPI scales must be very tentatively held. A more meaningful and reliable inference must be based on combinations of scales or consideration of the entire profile. However, for the theoretical development of our hypotheses



we will now consider expected relationships between alienation and specific MMPI scales. A method for considering scale combinations is outlined below.

The psychopathic deviant (Pd) scale is designed to distinguish antisocial and asocial personalities. As such the scale is not strictly speaking in the "psychotic" category, but shares with the psychoses the alleged characteristic that psychopaths are less able to profit from social experience. Actually the hypothesized relation of this MMPI scale and the AS scale may be expressed more concisely: psychopaths and highly socially alienated persons are both tenuously bound to society. Although the psychopath may choose to disregard rather than fail to understand the social norms, the behavioral outcome is similar. The behavior of the individual is more independent of socially transmitted regulations. Drake and Oetting, in their extensive investigation of the MMPI in counseling college students, found that few college students obtaining high scores on this scale had actual criminal records, but they noted the "tendency for this scale to indicate an antagonism to authority" (1959, p. 21).

The paranoia (Pa) scale attempts to distinguish an interpersonal approach involving suspicion of others and feelings that others pose a threat to the self. Very high scores on this scale are often taken to indicate the presence of a delusional system in which the beliefs of the individual are almost totally immune to social consensus, or as Cameron has suggested, the "real" society is eclipsed by the delusional

"pseudo-community." As such it represents an often hostile separation from society and a substitution of personal beliefs not shared by others in the environment. Less extreme scores on this MMPI scale still indicate a suspicious attitude toward others' motives, and a generalized hostile attitude, as well as a guardedness in social interaction. We expect that such individuals will be alienated from society, since society is necessarily composed of others.

The schizophrenia (Sc) scale of the MMPI was designed to distinguish this common form of psychosis, characterized by loss of contact with reality, bizarre thinking and behavior, delusions and hallucinations. The role of the loss of social contact in this disorder is clearly expressed by White in his discussion of the development of delusional thinking. "The critical point in the development of delusions, however, is the failure of correction. Weak habits of role-taking, accustomed to puzzle and brood alone; the person becomes trapped in his own single perspective and shares his misgivings with no one. The result is cumulative misinterpretations" (1964, p. 525). Drake and Oetting add that with students, "The scale is believed to be more indicative of a person's direction of his world--perceiving things differently from others and reacting to things in unusual ways....the high scoring students were described by counselors as confused, vague in goals, lacking in knowledge or information, or lacking in academic motivation" (1959, p. 28). This form of psychopathology approaches the essence of social alienation in that



the individual does not have sufficient ties to the social environment to comprehend or to be guided by the behavioral expectations of his society.

The social introversion (Si) scale might be expected to correlate with the AS scale for essentially the reasons set forth above. College students with high scores on this scale appear introverted, shy, socially insecure, and sometimes withdrawn (Drake & Oetting, 1959). Socially isolated individuals are, almost by definition, alienated and feeling outside of their social environment. In addition, social withdrawal would make social learning a difficult process, and predispose social isolates to feelings of confusion and normlessness, making the social behavior of others ambiguous.

The mania (Ma) scale of the MMPI is designed to identify persons with poor mood regulation. Such individuals are supposedly prone to wide mood swings, particularly in an elevated direction. Our hypothesis that these individuals, or those with tendencies in this direction, will score highly on the AS scale derives from the fact that such impulsiveness may result from a failure of social regulation. That is, as in the other psychoses, the basic failure here is one of social regulation of the individual's behavior, in this case those behaviors associated with mood states. In addition, the behavior of many persons in an acute manic state is often expressly antisocial, showing that at least in the acute state, manics are more responsive to their own impulses than to the dictates of society. This orientation implies a fail-



ure of social regulation.

From the high SE scoring persons we expect a different pattern of personality characteristics. We may hypothesize that whereas the typical "psychotic" scales will more likely be elevated with high AS scorers, the typical "neurotic" MMPI scales will more likely vary in direct relation to SE. The scales and reasons for this expectation are given below.

The hysteria (Hy) scale is intended to distinguish persons who tend to develop conversion symptoms to resolve psychological conflicts. However, while many persons scoring high on this scale do not actually present physical symptoms, there is a tendency for these persons to operate at a superficial psychological level. In company they may be outgoing but lacking depth. There is general agreement that lack of personal insight, denial of psychological problems, and repression characterize this personality type. These are qualities which, at face value, seem tantamount to self estrangement. The hysteric, in erecting strong defenses against impulses, isolates a part of himself and is estranged from that part of himself.

The hypochondriasis (Hs) scale is intended to detect persons who manifest a neurotic conflict in vague somatic complaints, often various aches and pains, sometimes chronic fatigue. Essentially the expectation that high SE scorers will also score highly on this scale follows the argument given for the hysteria scale. Hypochondriacal types often present more vague bodily concern, but the psychological

mechanisms of repression, denial, and lack of psychological insight are similar and should be reflected in high self estrangement.

The depression (D) and psychasthenia (Pt) MMPI scales are considered together because it is expected that their relationship to self estrangement is mediated by a common element--low self esteem. As we suggested above, a lack of inner resources forces the individual to seek positive evaluation from others to maintain his self esteem, and thus places him in a vulnerable position; what he cannot supply for himself he must obtain from others. This dependence on others to supply needs may result in anxiety--lest he not get what he needs--as surely as the failure to obtain from others what one needs may result in a sense of loss and worthlessness, or depression. Furthermore, Horney has suggested that the dependence on others which often accompanies anxiety and depression results from psychological operations which estrange the individual from his own inner resources, namely repression, inhibition, idealization, and externalization. Depression and anxiety seem to be the psychological coin paid by those estranged from their own self and experiences as they attempt to compensate for their loss in a not always compliant social environment.

Summarizing briefly, hypotheses have been advanced to suggest that (1) high scores on both AS and SE measures will be associated with generally higher MMPI profiles than will low alienation scores, (2) high SE scores will be more

closely associated with the generally "neurotic" MMPI scales (Hy, Hs, D, and Pt) than will AS scores, and (3) high AS scores will be more closely associated with the generally "psychotic" MMPI scales (Pd, Pa, Sc, and Si) than will high SE scores. These relationships are expected to hold for both normal and schizophrenic subjects, and for men as well as women. A statistical analysis is outlined below which will permit the extension of these hypotheses to consider the use of several scales together, permitting a more meaningful analysis of the MMPI.

### Method

#### Pretest I

Since administration of the McClosky-Schaar alienation items to college students has not been reported, and the self estrangement items have not been administered to any population, a pilot study was planned. In view of the low percentage of agreement previously found with Srole's items among college students, these items were omitted from this first pretest. The McClosky-Schaar items were interspersed with the self estrangement items and administered to 19 freshmen enrolled in a discussion group conducted as part of the large introductory psychology course. Naturally, these subjects were not aware of the purpose of the questionnaire and were asked to respond to all items on a four-point scale ranging from Strong Disagreement to Strong Agreement (see Appendix 1 for the questionnaire used in this pretest). In evaluating the results of this pretest two primary require-



ments were kept in mind: (1) that the items elicit a useful diversity of responses, that is, that there not be near universal agreement on a particular response to a particular item; and (2) that each item correlate positively with the remainder of the scale, and that these correlations be sufficiently large to justify inclusion of the item, but not so high as to indicate redundancy of the items. It was our intention to modify items where it seemed appropriate and conduct a second pretest employing the modified items. The result of a correlation analysis of the first present is shown in Table 1.

Turning our attention first to the self estrangement (SE) scale, it is apparent that the part-whole and part-remainder correlations were satisfactorily high with the exception of Item 3. All items were positively correlated with the full scale, the item means showing a tendency toward disagreement with the items, but inspection of the actual item distributions reveals that all, except perhaps #3, elicited sufficient diversity of responses. It was decided to reword #3 while attempting to retain that part of the SE concept it was designed to measure.

The McClosky-Schaar (AS) scale failed to meet our previous criteria. Now only were the part-whole correlations of individual items with the scale total very small in several cases; two items are actually negatively correlated with the full scale. (Significance tests were not performed, and it must be kept in mind that the sample size is only 19.)

TABLE 1

Results of Pretest I: Correlation of Items with Scale

Item	Correlation		Mean
	with full scale	with remainder*	
Self Estrangement			
1. do things without knowing why	.65	.46	2.7
2. like a stranger to myself	.85	.68	2.6
3. don't remember...childhood	.46	.19	3.3
4. dreams never make much sense	.67	.50	3.0
5. don't know how I really feel	.74	.54	2.2
Alienation from Society (McClosky-Schaar)			
1. With everything so uncertain	.11	-.07	1.7
2. What is lacking in the world	-.07	-.26	3.0
3. such a state of disorder	.43	.22	2.6
4. Everything changes so quickly	.65	.31	2.8
5. things our parents stood for	.51	.17	2.6
6. I often feel awkward	.58	.35	3.4
7. People were better off	.63	.39	2.7
8. other people find it easier	.42	.15	3.2

\* computed for the correlation of the part with remainder by method in Guilford (1956, p. 327).

Intuition suggests that the items, apparently worded to imply that the traditions to which they refer are desirable, may elicit a rebellious response set in college students, so that they are expressing a mixture of approval (or disapproval) as well as agreement in their responses. Some evidence for this impression was found scrawled in the margins of the collected questionnaires (e.g., "Many things our parents stood for are going to ruin before our very eyes"..."Thank God!"). It was decided to include the Srole scale on the second pretest to ascertain whether its internal consistency would be higher, while again retaining the McClosky-Schaar items. The wording, and scoring direction, of SE Item 3 was also changed to read: "I remember most of what happened in my early childhood." (The complete pretest II questionnaire form is located in Appendix 2.)

#### Pretest II

The second pretest was conducted with 18 students enrolled in a discussion group similar to that used in the first pretest. They were asked to respond in the same manner to the McClosky-Schaar scale, the Srole scale, and the modified SE scale. The results of this test are shown in Table 2.

These results seemed to justify proceeding with the SE scale in this modified form. The changes in Item 3 seemed to have improved its correlation with the scale, and the others (except for a slight decline in #4) remained consistently correlated with the remainder at a desirable level for a five-item scale. Furthermore, these results implied that



TABLE 2

Results of Pretest II: Correlation of Items with Scale

Item	Correlation		Mean
	with full scale	with remainder*	
Self Estrangement			
1. do things without knowing why	.70	.44	2.2
2. like a stranger to myself	.70	.47	2.4
3. remember most of...childhood	.52	.36	2.9
4. dreams never make much sense	.58	.27	2.6
5. don't know how I really feel	.76	.58	2.1
Alienation from Society (McClosky-Schaar).			
1. With everything so uncertain	.65	.42	1.9
2. What is lacking in the world	.25	-.13	3.0
3. such a state of disorder	.36	.03	2.6
4. Everything changes so quickly	.55	.23	2.5
5. things our parents stood for	.33	.08	2.3
6. I often feel awkward	-.10	-.37	3.6
7. People were better off	.59	.34	2.3
8. other people find it easier	.45	.08	2.8
Alienation from Society (Srole)			
1. things are getting worse	.31	.17	2.8
2. hardly fair to bring children	.42	.19	3.4
3. live pretty much for today	.70	.39	2.4
4. little use in writing to...	.77	.53	2.5
5. who he can count on	.64	.26	2.6

\* computed for the correlation of the part with remainder by method in Guilford (1956, p. 327).

the Srole anomy scale is a more internally consistent measure of alienation than the McClosky-Schaar items. The superiority of the Srole scale is shown in its positive and more consistent part-whole correlations, that is, in the fact that each item at least correlates positively with the remainder. In addition, it can be observed from the item means that the distributions were not crowded excessively to either end of the response continuum. Thus, despite the dysphoric quality expressed in the Srole scale items, they are preferred to the McClosky-Schaar scale.

To explore the relationship between the Srole AS and SE scales, each item was correlated with the full scale of the other, and finally the full scales were correlated. The first set of correlations was performed out of curiosity, the second to determine if the scales appeared to be independent. This last point is important: If the two scales correlate highly, then they might also share a similar relationship to MMPI scales and raise statistical and logical problems regarding the distinction between alienation from society and self. The results of these calculations are summarized in Table 3.

Although some individual items on each scale are, or appear to be, correlated with the other full scale, the two scales appear to be uncorrelated. This implies, but does not establish, that the two scales are measuring independent traits.

#### Procedure

Test materials were obtained and analyzed for 37 male

TABLE 3

Results of Pretest II: Intercorrelations  
of Srole and SE Items

Item	Correlation (with other full scale)
Srole	
1. things are getting worse	-.11
2. hardly fair to bring children	-.30
3. live pretty much for today	.27
4. little use in writing to	.35
5. who he can count on	-.15
SE	
1. do things without knowing why	.31
2. like a stranger to myself	-.05
3. remember most of...childhood	-.26
4. dreams never make much sense	-.09
5. don't know how I really feel	.23
Correlation of full scales	.08



students and 26 female students, all enrolled in an introductory psychology course at the University of Massachusetts. The students were tested in two groups on consecutive evenings with all materials being completed at one time. The alienation scales were given first in the form in which they appear in Appendix 3. Subjects were asked to read the instructions printed on the top of this questionnaire and proceed to fill it out. The MMPI (group booklet form) was administered next, and the standard instructions were paraphrased from the test booklet cover. All students were able to complete these materials in less than two hours.

Hospitalized subjects, all currently diagnosed as schizophrenic, were sought at the Northampton Veteran's Administration Hospital from among the in-patient population. An attempt was made to exhaust the supply of younger patients (under thirty years of age) before including older men. These subjects were tested individually on their wards with the examiner present for the completion of the alienation scales. They were then left with the MMPI when the examiner was satisfied that they understood the instructions. Arrangements were made with ward personnel to recover the test materials. In several cases Form R of the MMPI was used, since this version is somewhat shorter and more easily completed, although it does not allow for scoring of the Ego Strength (Es) scale. No other attempts were made to match this group with the college subjects on any social variables. As there were few testable younger veterans in the hospital currently diagnosed

as schizophrenic, the mean age of this group was 35 years. Six schizophrenic patients were dropped from the study as they refused or were unable to complete the MMPI. In all, 24 complete protocols were obtained.

### Results

The mean value of all measures for the three experimental groups is given in Table 4. In addition, male and female student groups have been compared to determine if a sex difference existed. The combined student group was compared to the schizophrenic group as a sort of normal control. F ratios are reported for these contrasts. This table provides a useful overview of the data on which subsequent analyses are based. On the alienation measures, no significant differences, as indicated by the F ratio, were found between male and female students, nor between the combined student group and the schizophrenics. On the MMPI, males obtained significantly higher scores on the Pt and Sc scales. There is also a significant but problematical difference on the Mf scale. Comparison of the student and schizophrenic groups reveals many significant F ratios based on MMPI scale means, with schizophrenics scoring higher on all scales except K.

The alienation scales were scrutinized for internal consistency by calculating the correlation of each item with the full scale, and then with the remainder of the scale. These figures appear in Table 5. Item 3 of the SE scale does not appear to correlate with the remaining items, a

TABLE 4

Group Means and Differences on All Measures<sup>1</sup>

Measure	Male student Mean (N=37)	Female student Mean (N=26)	F ratio	All students Mean (N=63)	Schizo-phrenics Mean (N=24)	F ratio
AS Scale	11.40	12.00	.70	11.65	11.41	.12
SE Scale	12.59	12.50	.02	12.55	11.54	2.28
MMPI, ?	5.40	4.11	.17	4.87	6.50	.21
MMPI, L <sup>2</sup>	46	46	.00	46	51	9.80**
MMPI, F <sup>3</sup>	64	58	1.37	61	77	18.85**
MMPI, K	51	49	.71	50	47	3.38
MMPI, Hs	57	53	2.80	55	65	11.30**
MMPI, D	65	61	1.47	63	77	13.15**
MMPI, Hy	61	59	1.57	60	61	.08
MMPI, Pd	69	63	3.38	66	66	.00
MMPI, Mf	67	43	99.73**	57	64	3.78*
MMPI, Pa	60	59	.19	59	72	17.27**
MMPI, Pt	70	63	4.75*	67	76	5.48*
MMPI, Sc	72	62	6.90**	68	85	16.02**
MMPI, Ma	66	63	1.10	65	67	.57
MMPI, Si	56	58	.83	57	61	3.86*
MMPI, Es	51	54	.88	--	--	--

<sup>1</sup> AS and SE scale figures are scale mean totals. MMPI "?" is mean raw score, other figures are mean T-scores with K added as specified in the MMPI manual.

<sup>2</sup> Raw scale scores of 7 or greater obtained for 1 male.

<sup>3</sup> Scale values greater than 70 obtained for 12 males and 3 females.

\*  $p < .05$ .

\*\*  $p < .01$ .



TABLE 5

Correlation of Alienation Items with  
Full Scale and Remainder  
(Full Sample, N=87)

Item	Correlation with Full Scale	Remainder
Srole, 1	.57	.36
Srole, 2	.63	.37
Srole, 3	.64	.34
Srole, 4	.56	.29
Srole, 5	.53	.23
SE, 1	.71	.48
SE, 2	.64	.36
SE, 3	.47	.16
SE, 4	.62	.38
SE, 5	.64	.38

Note: Correlation of full scales,  $\underline{r}=.32$ .

fact which would bring into question its usefulness on the scale.

Correlation coefficients were calculated between each alienation and each MMPI scale for each subject group. These figures are shown in Table 6.

The F scale appears to be most consistently correlated with both alienation scales across all groups, although the Sc scale is also consistently positively correlated, albeit at a lower level. There were no significant reversals in scale intercorrelations for male and female students, although Pd, Pa, and Ma are significantly correlated with AS in the female group but not the male, while Si and Sc attain significant correlations with AS for males but not females. The K scale is negatively correlated with AS, and significantly in the female group. The SE scale is significantly correlated with Pa for the female group, and with Sc for the male group. The consistent direction of correlations observed between the male and female students supports combining the student groups and comparing them with the schizophrenic subjects.

When the student groups are combined, the SE scale correlates significantly with F, Hs, D, Pd, Pa, Pt, and Sc. The AS scale correlated significantly with F, K (negatively), Pd, Pa, Sc, and Ma. For the schizophrenic group there were no significant correlations with the AS scale. The only correlations approaching significance were for the K (negative), Mf (negative), and Ma scales. The SE scale is significantly correlated with L, F, and Sc, with correlations approaching

TABLE 6

## Correlations of AS and SE Alienation Scales with MMPI Scales

MMPI Scale	Male Student (N=37)		Female Student (N=26)		All Student (N=63)		Schizophrenic (N=24)	
	AS	SE	AS	SE	AS	SE	AS	SE
MMPI, L	-.060	-.109	.138	-.129	.022	-.168	.050	.405*
MMPI, F	.522*	.432*	.385*	.404*	.433*	.418*	.213	.600*
MMPI, K	-.269	-.171	-.441*	-.270	-.354*	-.208	-.320	.064
MMPI, Hs	.190	.272	.190	.246	.164	.260*	-.048	.170
MMPI, D	.252	.224	.136	.296	.183	.250*	-.117	.065
MMPI, Hy	.052	.231	.121	.214	.065	.224	-.092	.008
MMPI, Pd	.224	.287	.438*	.217	.264*	.259*	.001	.109
MMPI, Mf	.045	-.058	.332	.028	.002	-.004	-.270	.071
MMPI, Pa	.209	.257	.483*	.473*	.293*	.325*	.105	.359
MMPI, Pt	.243	.224	-.063	.363	.082	.270*	.030	.371
MMPI, Sc	.440*	.381*	.296	.358	.322*	.357*	.203	.577*
MMPI, Ma	.245	.147	.535*	.076	.379*	.110	.334	.188
MMPI, Si	.318*	.251	-.041	.164	.175	.214	-.021	.321
MMPI, Total	.321*	.312*	.374*	.374*	.276*	.317*	.040	.346

\*  $p < .05$ .



significance for Pa, Pt, and Si. Finally, both AS and SE scales are significantly correlated with the total MMPI (sum of all clinical scales) for the student groups. In the schizophrenic group, however, the AS scale appears uncorrelated with the mean MMPI, while the SE scale falls just short of significance.

The correlation coefficients contained in Table 6 allow an appreciation of the common variance between individual variables. A discriminant analysis results in the specification of artificial variates, however, which derive from the combination of the original variables optimally weighted. These discriminant functions, or roots, thus allow a more powerful test of the ability of the dependent variables to discriminate groups established on the basis of the independent variable. When more than one such independent root contributes to the differentiation, the amount of variance accounted for by each root is specified. The correlation of each original variable with the discriminant root is calculated, and these may be interpreted as reflecting the extent to which the artificial variate and original variable distinguish the criterion groups. In practical terms, these loadings suggest the conceptual nature of the artificially established statistical dimension. Finally, the original variable means for discriminant groups can be assessed for differences by univariate  $F$  tests, since there may be significant group differences on original variables in the absence of a statistically significant discriminant dimension. The significance

of the root functions themselves is estimated by a chi-square method.

Discriminant analyses were performed for each subject group after dividing them at their group mean on the AS alienation scale. Table 7 reports the variable means, a test for significant mean differences, and the correlation of each original variable with the discriminant root extracted for each experimental group on the AS scale. Only the female student group analysis yielded a significant discriminant root, and that one root alone seems to describe the statistical dimension that differentiates the high and low AS female subjects. It appears the F, Sc, and Es scales of the MMPI contribute most to this differentiation in the student groups, while none of the MMPI scales appears to load heavily with the discriminant root extracted for the schizophrenics.

Each experimental subject group was then divided into high and low SE groups, with the division again taking place at the mean. Three more discriminant analyses were performed and are reported in Table 8. The discriminant roots failed to reach significance in all three groups, and no individual MMPI scale appears to load heavily with the roots across all three groups. The F, Pt, and Si scales showed high loadings on the root for the schizophrenic group, however. In the student groups, F, Pd, and Sc loaded most highly on the discriminant root for males, and only Pa showed a substantial loading for females.

The student subjects were next divided into four groups.

TABLE 7

Discriminant Analysis of High and Low Alienation from Society for Subject Groups

Variable	Male students				Female students				Schizophrenics			
	High AS (N=17) Mean	Low AS (N=20) Mean	F ratio	Load-ing	High AS (N=13) Mean	Low AS (N=13) Mean	F ratio	Load-ing	High AS (N=11) Mean	Low AS (N=13) Mean	F ratio	Load-ing
SE Scale	13.11	12.15	1.35	.25	13.30	11.69	3.00	.35	12.72	10.53	2.47	.42
MMPI, ?	1.94	8.35	2.55	-.34	1.84	6.38	0.97	-.21	3.72	8.84	0.37	-.17
MMPI, L	46.05	46.25	0.01	-.02	46.23	46.00	0.01	.02	52.63	50.23	0.35	.16
MMPI, F	71.29	57.60	11.37**	.65	65.76	52.46	9.53**	.56	81.63	73.92	1.09	.28
MMPI, K	49.35	53.10	2.77	-.35	45.69	54.00	12.39**	-.62	46.36	48.84	0.91	-.26
MMPI, Hs	59.88	54.70	2.70	.35	55.23	51.15	1.75	.27	65.63	65.92	0.00	-.01
MMPI, D	71.05	61.05	4.48*	.44	63.69	58.76	0.93	.20	76.36	79.07	0.10	-.09
MMPI, Hy	62.47	61.55	0.10	.07	61.07	57.30	1.15	.22	61.90	61.23	0.01	.03
MMPI, Pd	70.64	68.05	0.30	.12	69.00	57.46	10.73**	.59	69.00	64.30	0.70	.23
MMPI, Mr	69.35	66.70	0.52	.16	45.69	40.61	3.41	.37	63.36	65.15	0.20	-.12
MMPI, Pa	64.23	57.05	3.01	.37	64.15	53.92	11.04**	.59	74.90	71.07	0.30	.15
MMPI, Pt	76.00	66.65	4.26*	.43	64.23	62.46	0.12	.07	78.81	74.69	0.27	.14
MMPI, Sc	80.29	66.05	7.49**	.55	67.69	56.76	5.92*	.47	91.45	81.15	1.19	.30



TABLE 7 (cont.)

MMPI, Ma	68.05	65.75	0.45	.14	72.38	54.46	13.29**	.63	71.63	64.53	1.52	.33
MMPI, S1	60.25	50.25	4.53*	.44	60.23	57.07	0.57	.16	62.63	61.38	0.16	.11
MMPI, Es	46.52	55.35	6.31**	-.51	49.69	58.30	4.62*	-.42	--	--	--	--
Root 1 percent of variance: 100%					100%					100%		
Chi-square: 23.76 ( $p=.09$ )					36.69 ( $p=.009$ )					12.93 ( $p=0.60$ )		

\*  $p < .05$ .\*\*  $p < .01$ .

TABLE 8  
Discriminant Analysis of High and Low Self Estrangement for Subject Groups

Variable	Male students				Female students				Schizophrenics			
	High SE (N=20) Mean	Low SE (N=17) Mean	F ratio	Load- ing	High SE (N=13) Mean	Low SE (N=13) Mean	F ratio	Load- ing	High SE (N=10) Mean	Low SE (N=14) Mean	F ratio	Load- ing
AS Scale	12.20	10.47	4.42*	.54	12.23	11.76	0.14	.08	11.90	11.07	0.46	.18
MMPI, ?	4.05	7.00	0.51	-.19	1.23	7.00	1.61	-.29	13.90	1.21	2.46	.41
MMPI, L	45.15	47.35	1.43	-.32	44.76	47.46	1.55	-.28	53.80	49.57	1.12	.28
MMPI, F	68.25	58.76	4.66*	.56	63.23	55.00	2.92	.38	87.50	70.28	6.60*	.61
MMPI, K	50.75	52.11	0.34	-.16	48.07	51.61	1.58	-.28	49.30	46.57	1.09	.28
MMPI, Hs	59.55	54.17	2.92	.45	53.76	52.61	0.13	.08	72.90	60.71	2.44	.40
MMPI, D	67.65	63.29	0.76	.24	63.07	59.38	0.51	.16	84.10	73.35	1.69	.34
MMPI, Hy	63.55	60.11	1.53	.33	60.38	58.00	0.44	.15	65.40	58.78	1.36	.31
MMPI, Pd	73.30	64.47	3.90*	.52	63.15	63.30	0.00	-.00	70.40	63.64	1.47	.32
MMPI, Mf	66.25	69.88	0.99	-.27	42.38	43.92	0.27	-.12	63.60	64.85	0.09	-.08
MMPI, Pa	63.15	57.05	2.11	.39	62.69	55.38	4.59*	.46	78.40	68.85	2.01	.37
MMPI, Pt	72.85	68.70	0.76	.23	67.30	59.38	2.79	.37	87.70	68.64	7.70**	.65
MMPI, Sc	77.70	66.58	4.20*	.53	66.00	58.46	2.50	.35	100.60	75.35	9.52**	.70
MMPI, Ma	68.60	64.70	1.32	.31	61.84	65.00	0.26	-.12	67.00	68.35	0.05	.06

TABLE 8 (cont.)

MMPI, S1	57.90	53.88	1.11	.28	60.61	56.69	0.90	.22	65.90	59.14	5.83*	.59
MMPI, Es	49.85	53.00	0.69	-.22	52.30	55.69	0.61	-.18	--	--	--	--
Root 1 percent of variance: 100%				100%				100%				
Chi-square: 13.21 ( $\underline{p}=.64$ )				23.29 ( $\underline{p}=.08$ )				14.22 ( $\underline{p}=.50$ )				

\*  $p < .05$ .

\*\*  $p < .01$ .



Group 1 consisted of subjects obtaining high scores (above the student group average) on both AS and SE scales. Group 2 contained subjects scoring high on AS but low (below the student group average) on SE; Group 3, those scoring low on AS and high on SE. Finally, in Group 4 were those subjects obtaining low scores on both AS and SE scales. This division of subjects is diagrammed in Table 9.

A discriminant analysis was performed on these four groups and is presented in Table 10. Three root functions were isolated, but only the first attained statistical significance. MMPI scales showing a high positive loading on this root are F, Sc, Pa, and Ma, while those showing a negative loading are K and Es. The group means for the above scales are significantly different at at least  $p < .05$ .

This division also allows the comparison of subjects characterized by high SE and low AS (Group 3) with another group characterized by low SE and high AS (Group 2). A discriminant analysis was performed and is summarized in Table 11. No statistically significant root was extracted, indicating that there is apparently no discriminant dimension which defines these groups. In addition, none of the MMPI scale means were statistically different between these groups as assessed by univariate  $F$  tests.

The next comparison utilized those subjects scoring high on both AS and SE in contrast to those obtaining low scores on both scales. Again, a discriminant analysis was performed and is summarized in Table 12. This analysis

TABLE 9

Division of Students into Independent  
High and Low Alienation Groups

		SE Score	
		High	Low
AS Score	High	Group 1 N=19	Group 2 N=11
	Low	Group 3 N=15	Group 4 N=18

TABLE 10

Discriminant Analysis of High AS-High SE, High AS-Low SE,  
Low AS-High SE, and Low AS-Low SE Student Groups

Variable	High AS- High SE Mean	High AS- Low SE Mean	Low AS- High SE Mean	Low AS- Low SE Mean	F ratio	Loading <sup>1</sup>
MMPI, ?	2.11	1.63	3.93	10.61	2.11	-.36
MMPI, L	44.61	48.63	45.47	46.72	1.29	-.13
MMPI, F	73.56	59.00	57.53	53.94	10.08**	.79
MMPI, K	46.33	50.09	53.73	53.22	4.73**	-.58
MMPI, Hs	59.22	55.27	54.93	51.94	1.99	.41
MMPI, D	69.78	63.27	61.13	59.33	1.93	.41
MMPI, Hy	63.55	59.18	60.80	59.11	0.94	.24
MMPI, Pd	73.61	63.09	64.13	63.67	2.51	.41
MMPI, Mf	59.33	60.18	53.86	58.56	0.39	.07
MMPI, Pa	67.17	58.54	57.93	54.06	4.87**	.61
MMPI, Pt	74.67	63.63	65.86	64.28	2.15	.38
MMPI, Sc	80.17	65.09	64.60	60.56	6.16**	.65
MMPI, Ma	70.78	67.54	60.13	62.28	2.82*	.44
MMPI, Si	61.22	57.27	56.26	52.67	1.98	.41
MMPI, Es	45.78	52.45	56.86	56.22	4.22**	-.55

Root 1 percent of variance: 72.75

Chi-square: 39.43 (p=.002)

Root 2 percent of variance: 18.23

Chi-square: 12.92 (p=.61)

Root 3 percent of variance: 9.02

Chi-square: 6.78 (p=.91)

<sup>1</sup>Loadings for Root 1 only.

\* p < .05.

\*\* p < .01.



TABLE 11

Discriminant Analysis of High AS and Low SE Students  
and Low AS and High SE Students

Variable	High AS-Low SE Mean	Low AS-High SE Mean	F ratio	Loading
MMPI, ?	1.63	3.93	1.34	-.30
MMPI, L	48.63	45.46	3.57	.47
MMPI, F	59.00	57.53	0.19	.11
MMPI, K	50.09	53.73	2.06	-.36
MMPI, Hs	55.27	54.93	0.01	.02
MMPI, D	63.27	61.13	0.13	.09
MMPI, Hy	59.18	60.80	0.31	-.14
MMPI, Pd	63.09	64.13	0.03	-.04
MMPI, Mf	60.18	53.86	0.90	.24
MMPI, Pa	58.54	57.93	0.03	.04
MMPI, Pt	63.63	65.86	0.15	-.10
MMPI, Sc	65.09	64.60	0.00	.02
MMPI, Ma	67.54	60.13	2.71	.41
MMPI, Si	57.27	56.26	0.05	.06
MMPI, Es	52.45	56.86	1.12	-.27

Root 1 percent of variance: 100%

Chi-square: 15.42 ( $p=.42$ )

TABLE 12

Discriminant Analysis of High AS and High SE Students  
and Low AS and Low SE Students

Variable	High AS-High SE Mean	Low AS-Low SE Mean	F ratio	Loading
MMPI, ?	2.05	10.61	3.14	-.35
MMPI, L	44.68	46.72	0.98	-.20
MMPI, F	74.63	53.94	27.12**	.80
MMPI, K	46.42	53.22	9.80**	-.57
MMPI, Hs	59.36	51.94	5.96*	.46
MMPI, D	70.52	59.33	6.64*	.48
MMPI, Hy	63.42	59.11	1.85	.27
MMPI, Pd	73.89	63.66	8.05**	.52
MMPI, Mf	58.47	58.55	0.00	-.00
MMPI, Pa	67.47	54.05	12.32**	.62
MMPI, Pt	75.10	64.27	6.40*	.47
MMPI, Sc	80.47	60.55	17.60**	.70
MMPI, Ma	71.31	62.27	4.82*	.42
MMPI, Si	61.94	52.66	6.83*	.49
MMPI, Es	45.26	56.22	10.76**	-.59

Root 1 percent of variance: 100%

Chi-square: 31.74 ( $p=.007$ )

\*  $p < .05$ .

\*\*  $p < .01$ .

results in a significant discriminant root, indicating that the two groups may be differentiated along a single statistical dimension. The Es and K scales show high negative loadings with this root, while F, Sc, Pa, Pd, Si, D, Pt, and Hs show positive loadings in that order of descending magnitude. Consideration of Tables 11 and 12 together permits an assessment of high scores on both alienation scales, as opposed to high scores on either one alone, or low scores on both. Inspection of the MMPI means suggests an ordering of the MMPI scale elevations with the highest shown in Group 1, and the lowest in Group 4. The MMPI scale means for the four groups, contrasted with each other group mean, are shown in Table 13. Those means not found to differ at the  $p < .05$  level of significance are connected by underlining. No significant differences were found between any of the four group means on the ?, L, Hy, and Mf MMPI scales. On all other scales there are significant differences between Group 1 and Group 4. Group 1 shows significantly higher scores than all other groups on F, Pd, and Sc, while there are no significant differences between Groups 2, 3, and 4 on any of the measures.

### Discussion

This section will be a review of the major hypotheses and the results that bear upon them and an assessment of the implications and limitations of the study.

#### AS, SE, and MMPI General Elevation

It was hypothesized that higher AS and SE scores would both be associated with generally higher MMPI profiles.



TABLE 13

Means of MMPI Scales for Independent  
Student Alienation Sub-groups<sup>1</sup>

Variable	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
MMPI, ?	<u>2</u>	<u>1.6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>
MMPI, L	<u>44</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>46</u>
MMPI, F	<u>74</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>53</u>
MMPI, K	<u>46</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>53</u>
MMPI, Hs	<u>46</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>51</u>
MMPI, D	<u>70</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>59</u>
MMPI, Hy	<u>63</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>59</u>
MMPI, Pd	<u>73</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>63</u>
MMPI, Mf	<u>58</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>58</u>
MMPI, Pa	<u>67</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>54</u>
MMPI, Pt	<u>75</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>64</u>
MMPI, Sc	<u>80</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>60</u>
MMPI, Ma	<u>71</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>62</u>
MMPI, Si	<u>61</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>52</u>
MMPI, Es	<u>45</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>56</u>

<sup>1</sup>Means connected by underlining are not significantly different at  $p < .05$  level as assessed by univariate  $F$  test.

This expectation appears to have been supported for the student subjects. As noted in the previous section, the total score on the ten MMPI clinical scales was found to be significantly correlated with the scores of both alienation scales in the student groups. The hypothesized relationship was expected to hold for all subject groups, but the results obtained with the schizophrenic group do not clearly support this expectation. In the schizophrenic group, the SE scale showed a moderate relationship to the MMPI total score, but one that fell short of statistical significance. In view of the relatively small size of this group ( $N=24$ ), it may be reasonably concluded that this evidence is suggestive of a relationship between self estrangement and an elevated MMPI for this group as well. There is no support here for the hypothesis of a relationship between alienation from society and generally elevated MMPI scales in the schizophrenic group, although such a relationship is supported in the student groups. The differences between the results obtained for the student sample and the schizophrenic sample as well as the inherent differences between these groups warrant close attention. Therefore, this and other subject group differences will be considered later in this section.

Before considering the next hypothesis a few brief comments on the significance of MMPI profile elevations seem appropriate. The interpretation adopted here is that the mean MMPI clinical scale total is a crude index of deviancy as reflected in high individual scales or combinations

of scales, and that it is a meaningful first step in the assessment of personality characteristics associated with alienation. There is no reason to suspect that higher group means are a result of each individual's contributing a generally elevated profile. To apply descriptions of individuals obtaining elevated or "floating" profiles to elevated group mean profiles seems unwarranted. Therefore, the results and conclusions drawn concerning the first hypothesis should not be construed to mean that individuals in the high alienation groups will all show generally elevated profiles. It is more likely that the mean group elevation is the result of elevation on different scales obtained by individuals in that group. The discussion of hypotheses which follows attempts to clarify the nature of the group differences observed.

#### Neuroticism and Alienation

The second hypothesis postulated that the "neurotic" MMPI scales (Hs, Hy, D, and Pt) would show a closer relationship to SE score than to AS score; but no significant relationship was found between the SE scale and any of these MMPI scales in the individual subject groups. When the student groups were combined, however, elevations on the Hs, D, and Pt scales were found to be significantly associated with the SE scale, but not with the AS scale. This finding partially supports the expectation of a closer relationship between neuroticism and self estrangement, than between neuroticism and alienation from society. There is also



some (although slight) support for this hypothesis in the schizophrenic group where the results are in the expected direction, but can only be considered suggestive. The discussion of these differences between the schizophrenic and student groups is deferred to a later part of this section.

The discriminant analyses performed on high and low SE scoring subjects in each group also bear on this hypothesis. As shown in the Results section, the scale means for the Hs, D, Hy, and Pt scales reveal that the high SE subjects show higher means on these scales, but these differences are not statistically significant. The discriminant analyses failed to establish significant discriminant dimensions for any of the subject groups, probably because the "psychotic" scale means are also higher for the high SE scorers. The existence of a neuroticism-to-psychoticism dimension with high SE scorers defining the neuroticism scale patterning is not indicated. The evidence for an association between individual neurotic scales (Hs, D, and Pt) and SE scores, and the failure to define significant discriminant dimensions, does not suggest the presence of a "typical" MMPI profile pattern associated with high SE. That is, high self estranged subjects more often show neurotic elevations than do low self estranged subjects, but they fail to exhibit a single "typical" profile pattern. In addition, there is a closer association between neuroticism and SE scores than between neuroticism and AS scores, but high SE scores also appear to be related to the psychotic scales. We find general support

for this hypothesis, but have failed to specify a personality pattern from the MMPI that is associated with high self estrangement.

#### Psychoticism and Alienation

The third hypothesis expected that AS scores would be more closely related to the "psychotic" MMPI scales (Pd, Pa, Sc, Ma, and Si) than would the SE scores. The data from the combined student groups support the expectation of a relationship between the Pd, Pa, Sc, and Ma scales, and AS scores. However, of these scales only the Ma scale is not also associated with SE scores as well. Furthermore, if we consider the subject groups separately, there is a tendency for different psychotic scales to be associated with AS scores in each group, so that scanning across all three groups, we find an association between all the MMPI scales mentioned, but in no particular group are all the psychotic MMPI scales associated with a high AS score. These results seem to imply that the specific psychotic indices are a function of an interaction between each group and the AS scale, with high social alienation resulting in different psychotic elevations in each subject group.

Some general conclusions about these findings are in order. In the college male sample, a combination of social withdrawal and apathy seem to characterize the high AS scorers. This would seem to agree with the Drake and Oetting report that counselees obtaining high scores on the Sc and Si scales were "shy in the interview and gave the impression of

being generally introverted and insecure" (Drake & Oetting, 1959, in Dahlstrom & Welsh, 1960, p. 212). In college women, on the other hand, high AS scores were associated with the Pa and Ma scales. As mentioned in the introduction, high scores on the Pa scale indicate a guarded interpersonal approach, while high Ma scoring women have been described as awkward, boastful, and self centered, as well as energetic (Dahlstrom & Welsh, 1960, p. 206). From this information we may speculate that high AS scores in college men are associated with shyness and social withdrawal, while in college women, they are accompanied by a superficial level of social interaction and an underlying social insecurity. In the schizophrenic group, as was noted above, no important association between the MMPI scales and the AS scale was found.

The discriminant analyses performed on high and low AS scoring subjects in each group also relate to the hypothesized relationship between alienation from society and "psychotic" MMPI scale elevations. For the college females, we find that the Ma, Pd, Pa, and Sc scales contribute most to the significant discriminant dimension, indicating that it is these scales that most strongly differentiate high and low socially alienated female students. This finding is in support of the hypothesis. For college males there is not a statistically significant pattern of MMPI scale elevations that differentiate high from low AS scorers. However, the results are suggestive of a pattern involving the elevation of the Sc and Si scales, as well as Pt and D to characterize



socially alienated male students. We interpret this as suggesting that anxiety and depression, as well as social withdrawal, accompany alienation from society in these subjects. The D and Pt scales do not contribute to a pattern distinctive to self estrangement for these male students, as was originally hypothesized.

This pattern of differences in the results for the AS scale suggests that alienation from society is manifested in different personality characteristics for males as compared to females. Perhaps because of the more aggressive behavior expected of males in social encounters, those who are insecure and prone to brooding and depression also avoid close ties to others, exhibit a generalized distance in social interaction, and tend toward social alienation. Women, on the other hand, do not appear from an analysis of the MMPI scales associated with high social alienation in this group to avoid social contact per se, but interact guardedly, while at the same time appearing active and sociable, and perhaps even overacting or acting out.

#### Evaluation of the Differences between Schizophrenics and Students

We have discussed possible explanations for the different results obtained for male and female student subjects in this study. The results indicate that the schizophrenic group shows an even more unique pattern of results. Some possible explanations for this difference between the student and schizophrenic samples may be tentatively advanced. Since

the schizophrenics' MMPI profiles are considerably elevated when compared to the student groups, we may consider the operation of a ceiling effect such that beyond a moderate degree of profile elevation, alienation from society is no longer related to MMPI elevations. Another consideration is that the mean AS score is not higher for the schizophrenic group than for the students, a finding which seems at first inconsistent with the expectation of a relationship between an index of pathology (generally elevated MMPI profiles) and alienation. In short, in the schizophrenic group are subjects who are diagnosed psychotic and yet show no higher alienation from society than college students. These findings, taken in conjunction with the presence of a suggestive relationship between SE and profile elevations in the schizophrenic group, may indicate that these subjects interpret the AS items quite differently than do students. For example, in responding to an item referring to the "average man" (as one Srole item does), hospitalized subjects may see the average man as better off, while students see him as less well off, than they are. Thus a difference in the item interpretation may result from hospitalized psychiatric patients viewing the Srole items as referring to a more desirable "outside world" than college students do.

There is a strong relationship between SE scores and MMPI Sc scores in the schizophrenic sample. In addition, there are suggestive associations between SE and the Pa and Pt scales. These findings might suggest that in a group



which would seem to be objectively alienated from society (hospitalized and diagnosed schizophrenic), self estrangement is an important indicator of the degree of pathology.

#### Alienation Combinations in the Student Sample

In order to explore more fully the relationship between self estrangement and alienation from society, the student sample was divided into alienation groups on the basis of both AS and SE scales in order to obtain "pure" groups of high AS and high SE subjects. This division, it was thought, might bring forward differences between high AS and high SE scorers which had been confounded in the previous dichotomous splits. Overall differences were found on several MMPI scales among these four groups, suggesting that comparisons of pairs of groups might yield results related to alienation patterns. Yet, when subjects high on one alienation scale and low on the other were compared to those with the opposite pattern of high and low scores, no differences were found. This result seems inconsistent with Taviss' (1969) conception of alienation as a unitary dimension from self-distance to others-distance. The absence of apparent MMPI scale differences between these groups raises the question of the joint (and additive) operative of self estrangement and alienation from society in relation to MMPI scale patterns.

Student subjects high on both the AS and SE scale were compared to those scoring low on both scales, resulting in a significant discriminant dimension. Until this point, discussion of the validity scales of the MMPI has been omitted.



However, since the F and K scales contribute to an understanding of the present results, they are included in the following discussion. The discriminant dimension which differentiates student subjects scoring high on both alienation scales from those scoring low on both is anchored at the positive end by the F, Sc, and Pa scales. Anchoring the other end of this dimension with high negative loadings are the Es and K scales. An interpretation of this discriminant dimension will begin by consideration of the F scale. Dahlstrom and Welsh (1960) state that some F items "deal with peculiar thoughts or beliefs. Others have to do with apathy, lack of interest in things, or denial of social ties"(p. 49). These authors comment on high Sc scorers: "Other people see them as remote and inaccessible, often seeming sufficient unto themselves. Inactivity, or endless stereotypy, may accompany the withdrawal of interest from other people or external objects and relationships" (1960, p. 71). Apathy and lack of investment in others appear to be recurrent themes in these descriptions. The K scale attains the highest negative loading with this dimension, and with the ES scale largely defines its other extreme. High K scorers have been viewed "as taking an ascendent role in relations with others, competitive with others, conversationally facile and tending to be ostentatious and exhibitionistic. The picture is one of poise, reserve, and comfort in social relations. These people usually have the social skills and experience to carry off successfully the moment-to-moment

requirements of a social situation" (Block & Bailey, 1955, p. 144). Thus, low alienation scoring student subjects seem to exhibit MMPI profile patterns typical of persons showing interest and competence in dealing with other people, while those scoring high on both alienation scales show profiles characteristic of apathy, social ineptness, and withdrawal from others.

The results seem to indicate that there is something unique about those who obtain high scores on both scales. On some MMPI scales they differ from those who are high on one alienation scale, and on all the clinical scales except *Mf* they are different than those who score low on both scales. At the same time, there are no significant differences between those scoring high on one alienation scale or the other, and those who obtain low scores on both. The persons alienated on both scales score in the pathological direction on every MMPI scale. It may be that the combination of self estrangement and social alienation enclose the individual in a "no-exit" isolation. Unable to interact comfortably with others, these individuals may also be unable to utilize their inner resources effectively.

#### Limitations

The problem of conceptual clarity to which this study addressed itself has not been overcome. Despite attempts to define clearly the alienation constructs, the scales employed are short and of almost unknown reliability and validity, especially in the case of the new SE scale. This limitation

can only be overcome by more extensive research with these instruments. At the present time, they must be pursued cautiously, and conclusions drawn from their use must be seen as tentative.

The limitations placed on the study by the particular samples are numerous. The college sample, while probably representative of freshman students at this state university, can hardly be held to be representative of other populations. Certainly they are unlike Srole's (1956) sample of public transportation riders, and the meaning of the alienation items may not be the same for both populations. The schizophrenic sample was not randomly chosen, as cooperation with the testing procedure was required, and thus the results obtained cannot be generalized to all schizophrenic hospital patients. The mean age, and probably the socioeconomic background, of the schizophrenic sample is considerably different from that of the student sample. These variables have consistently been found to be related to alienation (Srole, 1956; McClosky & Schaar, 1965). In addition, the present study addressed itself to personality characteristics of alienation that are related to psychopathology. It is possible that alienation may be related to other important aspects of personality, for example, to creativity. Positive characteristics and strengths of alienation are not likely to emerge in a study that addresses itself toward psychopathology at the outset.

Finally, the size of the samples was not very large,



and more subtle relationships between personality and alienation may not have emerged because of the relatively low power of the statistical procedures employed when used with small samples. The number of suggestive relationships observed would indicate the value of replicating several of the observations with larger samples.

#### Implications

Essentially, the purpose of this study has been to clarify the relationship of two aspects of the global alienation concept by relating them to other personality variables. While support was not found for all the hypotheses, and the evidence is only suggestive in its bearing upon others, the profit in attempting to separate portions of the alienation concept lies in the clearer understanding obtained of the operation and interaction of alienation from society and self estrangement. For the student sample it is evident that the combined use of the AS and SE scales resulted in a more powerful alienation measure. While the actual clinical significance of the alienation syndrome observed in the high AS and SE group remains unknown, the MMPI evidence is consistent with Srole's (1956) and others' view of alienated individuals as psychologically disadvantaged. The attempt made here to differentiate self estrangement and social alienation along the traditional psychopathology boundary of neurosis and psychosis probably oversimplifies a more complex set of interactions between man and the social and existential spheres in which he must operate and define relationships.

It is apparent that before phrases such as "the alienation of modern man" can be treated as more than popular slogans, and before the alienation concept can be usefully applied to the understanding and solution of social problems, effort must be directed toward finding where and how alienation relates to personality theory and research.

#### Summary

Two facets of the diffuse alienation concept, self estrangement and alienation from society, were isolated and defined as psychological rather than social variables. The relationship of these alienation states to a global index of personal maladjustment was postulated, as well as more specific expectations that self estrangement would be more closely associated with neurotic tendencies, while alienation from society would be more closely associated with psychotic tendencies.

Two scales purporting to measure alienation from society were pretested, and the Srole anomie scale (AS scale) was selected for the study on the basis of its internal consistency. A scale for the measurement of self estrangement (SE scale) was derived from key elements of the self estrangement definition (Laing, 1967), pretested and modified. The MMPI was chosen as a personality assessment instrument because of its scope, widespread application, and standardization.

The subjects were 37 male college students, 26 female college students, and 24 hospitalized male schizophrenics.



The results showed a significant MMPI profile elevation for the high AS and high SE student subjects. In the schizophrenic group a suggestive association between mean MMPI profile height and SE only was found. Some support was found for an association between self estrangement and elevations on neurotic scales (Hs, D, Pt) in the student groups. This relationship was only suggestive in the schizophrenic group. In addition, the SE scale was found to be related to the Sc scale in the male student sample, the Pa scale in the female student sample, and the Sc scale in the schizophrenic sample. General support was found for an association between alienation from society and psychotic MMPI scale elevations (Pd, Pa, Sc, and Ma) in the student samples. No relationship was detected between the AS scale and any MMPI scales in the schizophrenic sample. Discriminant analyses performed for each experimental group divided into high and low alienation groups failed to extract significant discriminant root functions except in two cases. Female students divided into high and low groups on the AS scale could be scaled along a root dimension loading most heavily with the Ma, Pa, and Pd scales. Students who scored high on both scales were compared to those who scored low on both scales and a significant discriminant root interpreted as being related to interpersonal skills and social interaction was extracted. The results were discussed with attention to differences between experimental groups, and the effect of combined social and self alienation.



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## APPENDIX 1

Self Estrangement Scale and McClosky-Schaar Alienation from  
Society Scale used in Pretest 1

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Sex M F \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Father's occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Below are some statements about which people have different feelings. Read each sentence carefully and indicate whether you Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), or Strongly Disagree (SD). Of course, since these statements deal with how people feel about things, there are no right or wrong answers. Just indicate how YOU feel.

- |  |    |   |   |    |
|--|----|---|---|----|
| 1. With everything so uncertain these days, it almost seems as though anything could happen.                             | SA | A | D | SD |
| 2. I often do things without knowing why.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 3. What is lacking in the world today is the old kind of friendship that lasted for a lifetime.                          | SA | A | D | SD |
| 4. Very often I feel like a stranger to myself.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 5. With everything in such a state of disorder, it's hard for a person to know where he stands from one day to the next. | SA | A | D | SD |
| 6. I don't remember much from my early childhood.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 7. Everything changes so quickly these days that I often have trouble deciding which are the right rules to follow.      | SA | A | D | SD |
| 8. My dreams never make much sense to me.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 9. I often feel that many things our parents stood for are just going to ruin before our very eyes.                      | SA | A | D | SD |
| 10. Often it's hard for me to make up my mind because I don't know how I really feel about something.                    | SA | A | D | SD |
| 11. People were better off in the old days when everyone knew just how he was expected to act.                           | SA | A | D | SD |

12. I often feel awkward and out of place. SA A D SD
13. It seems to me that other people find it SA A D SD  
easier to decide what is right than I do.

Do you have any comments or feelings about this scale\_\_\_\_\_

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## APPENDIX 2

Self Estrangement Scale and Srole and McClosky-Schaar  
Alienation from Society Scales used in Pretest 2

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Sex M F

Father's occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Below are some statements about which people have different feelings. Read each sentence carefully and indicate whether you Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), or Strongly Disagree (SD). Of course, since these statements deal with how people feel about things, there are no right or wrong answers. Just indicate how YOU feel.

- |  |    |   |   |    |
|--|----|---|---|----|
| 1. With everything so uncertain these days, it almost seems as though anything could happen.                             | SA | A | D | SD |
| 2. I often do things without knowing why.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 3. What is lacking in the world today is the old kind of friendship that lasted for a lifetime.                          | SA | A | D | SD |
| 4. Very often I feel like a stranger to myself.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 5. With everything in such a state of disorder, it's hard for a person to know where he stands from one day to the next. | SA | A | D | SD |
| 6. I remember most of what happened in my early childhood.   | SA | A | D | SD |
| 7. Everything changes so quickly these days that I often have trouble deciding which are the right rules to follow.      | SA | A | D | SD |
| 8. My dreams seldom make much sense to me.   | SA | A | D | SD |
| 9. I often feel that many things our parents stood for are just going to ruin before our very eyes.                      | SA | A | D | SD |
| 10. Often it's hard for me to make up my mind because I don't know how I really feel about something.                    | SA | A | D | SD |
| 11. People were better off in the old days when everyone knew just how he was expected to act.                           | SA | A | D | SD |



- |  |    |   |   |    |
|--|----|---|---|----|
| 12. I often feel awkward and out of place.   | SA | A | D | SD |
| 13. It seems to me that other people find it easier to decide what is right than I do.   | SA | A | D | SD |
| 14. In spite of what some people say, things are getting worse for the average man.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 15. It is hardly fair to bring children into the world with the way things look for the future.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 16. Nowadays a person has to live pretty much for today and let tomorrow take care of itself.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 17. There is little use in writing to public officials because often they aren't really interested in the problems of the average man. | SA | A | D | SD |
| 18. These days a person doesn't really know who he can count on.   | SA | A | D | SD |

## APPENDIX 3

Self Estrangement Scale and Srole Alienation from Society  
Scale used with Student and Hospital Sample

NAME _____	AGE _____
------------	-----------

SEX    M    F            Number of older brothers and sisters

Number of younger brothers and sisters

Father's occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Home town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Below are some statements about which people have different feelings. Read each sentence carefully and indicate whether you Strongly Agree (SA), Agree (A), Disagree (D), or Strongly Disagree (SD). Of course, since these statements deal with how people feel about things, there are no right or wrong answers. Just show how YOU feel.

- |     |  |    |   |   |    |
|-----|--|----|---|---|----|
| 1.  | In spite of what some people say, things are getting worse for the average man.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 2.  | I often do things without knowing why.   | SA | A | D | SD |
| 3.  | It is hardly fair to bring children into the world with the way things look for the future.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 4.  | Very often I feel like a stranger to myself.   | SA | A | D | SD |
| 5.  | Nowadays a person has to live pretty much for today and let tomorrow take care of itself.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 6.  | I remember most of what happened in my early childhood.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 7.  | There is little use in writing to public officials because often they aren't really interested in the problems of the average man. | SA | A | D | SD |
| 8.  | My dreams seldom make much sense to me.  | SA | A | D | SD |
| 9.  | These days a person doesn't really know who he can count on.   | SA | A | D | SD |
| 10. | Often it's hard for me to make up my mind because I don't know how I really feel about something.                                  | SA | A | D | SD |

# Intercorrelation of MMPI Scales for Student Sample (N=63)

[illegible]

Note:  $p < .05$  for correlations greater than .25.







